

A discussion of

“Observing the Islamic Theological Context:
Contemporary Indonesian Muslim Feminist Agendas toward Recognition of Gay and Lesbian Rights”

A paper by

Farid Muttaqin

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To request a copy of
Farid Muttaqin's paper, please
email at godby@ohio.edu
or call 593-4686.

Abstract:

The Muslim feminists in Indonesia have an important position among the efforts to uphold gay and lesbian rights. Indeed, the involvement of Muslim feminist groups in homosexual movements is crucial in terms of strengthening the endeavors of reconstruction of biases in Islamic interpretations. Some groups such as GAYa Nusantara, Koalisi Pelangi, and Koalisi Perempuan Indonesia, who promotes gay rights in Indonesia, focus on the internal empowerment among gay communities and still abandon the problem of theology and religion. It is hard for the “secular groups” to deal with the controversial issue of homosexuality in the country in where Islamic religious belief plays the significant roles for the society. It is important to begin the recognition of homosexual rights in Indonesia by observing the theological context and reinterpreting the verses of the Koran. In this regard, this feminist effort to provide a new interpretation of Islamic teaching on homosexuality will be a crucial contribution to gay and lesbian rights.

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